

U.S.S.N. 10/665,793  
Filed: September 19, 2003  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

### Remarks

Claims 1-12 and 14- 25 have been amended. New claims 27-32 have been added.

Claims 1, 24 and 25 have been amended to specify that the strand or seed is elastic. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at least at page 5, line 27, page 7, lines 24-26 and in Figures 1 and 2. Claims 2-12, 14, 15, 17-23 have been amended to depend from amended claim 1. Claims 6 and 8 have been amended to refer to prophylactic agents in the list of suitable agents. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 13, lines 4-5. Claims 7 and 8 have been amended to specify that the strand may contain cavities or microbubbles. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification at least at page 26, lines 23-25 (cavities) and page 18, line 29 and page 19, lines 3-5 (microbubbles). Claim 16 has been amended to specify that the strand further comprises seeds. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 7, line 25. New claim 28 has been added, which defines the strand or seed as further comprising polymeric anchoring structures. Support for this claim can be found in the specification at least at page 37, lines 19-21. Claim 21 has been amended to depend from new claim 28. New claim 29 depends from claim 28 and further defines the anchoring structures. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 37, line 19 until page 38, line 9. New claim 30 has been added, which depends from claim 6 and further defines the strand or seed as containing one or more areas of a therapeutic, prophylactic, or diagnostic agent and one or more areas comprising spacers. Support for this claim can be found in the specification at least at page 39, lines 8-10

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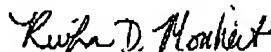
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and page 40, lines 25-27. New claim 31 has been added, which defines the strand as forming a mesh or lattice. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 40, lines 5-6. New claim 32 depends from claim 9 and specifies that the radioactive agent is in a biodegradable carrier. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at least at page 11, lines 3-5.

Allowance of claims 1-32, as amended, is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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